REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated October 3, 2007. Applicant has amended claims 1, 5, 6, 12, 16, 17, 23, 25-31. Claims 4, 9, 15 and 20 are canceled. Reconsideration and favorable action in this case are respectfully requested.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-22 and 28 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 6,463,534 to Geiger in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,647,494 to Drews. Applicants have reviewed these references in detail and do not believe that they disclose or make obvious the invention as claimed.

Applicant's have repeated the amendments to claims 23 and 28 found in the Amendment After Final of January 3, 2008, since the amendments were not entered in the Advisory Action. Claim 23 has been amended to correct a typographical error. Claim 28 has been amended to specify that operation of one or more hardware components is enabled or disabled. Further, Applicants have canceled claims 4, 9, 15 and 20, as they did not change the scope of their respective independent claims. Claims 25-27, previously dependent on claim 4, have been amended to correct claim dependency. Claims 29-31 have been amended for proper antecedent basis with claim 28.

Applicants note with appreciation that the Examiner has indicated that claims 23-27 and 29-31 are allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicants have amended the independent claims 1, 6, 12, and 17 to specify that the configuration parameters set one or more of the speed of a hardware component of the processing device, access to one or more normally hidden memory locations or the enablement or disablement of a hardware component. This aspect of the invention is not shown in the references cited by the Examiner.

With regard to the §103(a) rejection, the Examiner agrees with the Applicants' contention in the previous Amendment that Geiger does not explicitly disclose reading configuration parameters from the certificate, if properly authenticated, and configuring the processing device hardware responsive to the configuration parameters. The Examiner states the Drews, however, discloses reading configuration parameters from the certificate and, if properly authenticated, configuring the processing device hardware responsive to the configuration parameters, citing the Abstract; column 2, lines 60-67 and column 3, lines 1-6.

In the Advisory Action, the Examiner notes that the check flag of configuration parameters 45 includes an authorization check flag which specifies whether the integrity and security checks should be performed on the hardware configuration. The Examiner interprets this as setting a hardware configuration for the processing device.

While Applicants believe that the teaching of performing a integrity or security check would not amount to configuring the hardware, Applicants have amended the claim to specify changes to specific performance settings. No such settings are shown in the references cited by the Examiner.

Since claims 1, 6, 12 and 17 specify reading configuration parameters from a certificate, if properly authenticated, and configuring specific hardware performance setting of the processing device hardware responsive to the configuration parameters, Applicants respectfully request allowance of these claims.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayment, including extension fees, to Deposit Account No. 20-0668 of Texas Instruments Incorporated.

Applicants have made a diligent effort to place the claims in condition for allowance. However, should there remain unresolved issues that require adverse action, it

is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone Alan W. Lintel, Applicants'
Attorney at (972) 664-9595 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as
possible.

For these reasons, and in view of the above amendments, this application is now
considered to be in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,

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